



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Persian Studies
Program

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

PERSIAN FOR ARABIC SPEAKERS I

Summer 2023

خوش آمدید

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1 pm-2pm and By Appointment

Course Goals and Description

This course is offered as an alternative to Intensive 1st Level Persian I for students who read and write Arabic with ease. This course introduces students to the basic structures of the Persian Language. All four language-skills: speaking, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, and writing will be taught equally using the immersion method. This method will help students achieve confidence communicating in the Persian language. Aspects of Persian culture will be introduced on a regular basis. Students will participate actively through dialogue. Exercises will be given at the end of each lesson.

At the end of this course we will be able to:

- 1- Have basic level conversations in Persian: 5 minutes.**
- 2- Read texts of elementary level: 100 to 150 words.**
- 3-Write short paragraphs with reasonable accuracy: 50 to 100 words**
- 4-Develop cultural awareness through readings, films, music, food etc.**

Course Materials

1-Persian in Use is the main course resource, author: “Anousha Sedighi” Chicago University Press ISBN: 978-90 8728 217 2

Other supplementary materials will also be introduced to assist students in learning the language.

2-Online Materials:

- Persian in Texas: http://sites.la.utexas.edu/persian_online_resources
- Persian Language Online: <https1://www.persianlanguageonline.com/learn>
- Forvo (Pronunciation): <https://forvo.com>
- BBC Persian News: <https://www.bbc.com/persian>
- VOA News: <https://ir.voanews.com>
- Hamshahri Online News: <https://www.hamshahrionline.ir>

3-Persian Bilingual Dictionary is required

Online Dictionaries:

- Vajehyab: <https://www.vajehyab.com>
- Farsi123: <http://farsi123.com>
- University of Chicago Dictionaries (Steingass & Hayyim): <https://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/persian/>

Grading and Course Requirement

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Participation (Attendance & Homework) | 25% |
| Quizzes: | 20% |
| Oral Presentation | 10% |
| Midterm/Reading & Conversation: | 15% |
| Final/Reading & Conversation: | 20% |
| Culture Discussion Posts: | 10% |

Please Note:

Attendance and active participation are critical to the development of all interactive skills in Persian. ***Please try your best to be in every class, for the whole period.*** Only two absences will be excused. Beginning with the third absence your participation grade will be lowered. Any chronic tardiness also counts as absence.

Culture Discussion Posts:

Students are required to contribute 1 discussion post related to Persian culture to the Canvas discussion board every week. To participate, go to the “Discussion” section on Canvas, click on the “Persian Culture” discussion, click on the “Reply” button at the top, and type your post.

These posts can be about anything related to culture in Persian-speaking countries. Ideas include music, food, films, and literature. The purpose of this assignment is to help students learn about and engage with Persian culture in the virtual learning environment, as we would typically offer events and activities related to these topics.

Films:

Students are required to watch 2 Persian films by the end of the semester. We have a number of films with English subtitles on our Canvas page. Go to “ShareStream Media Manager” on the Canvas page and click on the “Films” folder to view these.

For each film, students are required to contribute a discussion post. To participate, go to the “Discussion” section on Canvas, click on the “Films” discussion, click on the “Reply” button at the top, and type your post.

In your post, please include several sentences about the director (their genre of films, their most famous film, and any awards they have won). Also write several sentences about the film and your opinion on it.

Homework:

Daily study and completion of homework is your personal responsibility. Please reserve no less than 1 hour daily for Persian. Some students need more time. ***Daily written homework must be submitted to Canvas before the start of class the next day (9:30 am EST).*** Go to “Assignments” and find the correct “Homework” spot under “Participation & Homework.” It will be labeled by the date the homework is due.

Homework will be annotated and corrected via Canvas. ***Late homework will be marked down by 5% to 10%.*** Students will be given monthly grades for participation, which includes active participation in class and homework performance. This is then factored into the final grade.

Please make sure to know the homework assignment for the day. Have a contact in class who can inform you about the assignment in the case of your absence. I will be more than happy to respond to your questions about the homework during my office hours.

Tests, quizzes, oral performance evaluation:

If you are absent or late on the day of a scheduled quiz, test or oral performance evaluation without prior notice to me, you will receive a zero for that requirement. Quizzes, oral performance evaluations, tests, and exams are announced in advance.

There will be a quiz every other Thursday during the normal class period. Each quiz will include a written component and an oral recording. The professor will post the quiz file on Canvas at the start of class. For written quizzes, students may print the quiz, write

on a separate piece of paper, or type. They must upload photos or scans of their handwritten quiz or a typed copy to the correct assignment spot on Canvas by the end of the class period. There will be spots created for each of the quizzes on Canvas under "Assignments" (Quiz #1, Quiz #2, etc.) where students should upload their work.

Grading Scale

The approximate letter grade scale I use to assess your performance is as follows:

A (97-100) Excellent grasp of vocabulary, spelling and grammar. The use of complex sentence structures as well as new vocabulary.

A (93-96) Good grasp of concepts, some complex structures--still above minimum

A- (90-92) Lack of careful attention to spelling, missing verbs and major parts of speech.

B+ (87-89) Lack of attention as well as incorrect language use.

B (83-86) Incorrect language use, did not study new material or is relying on previous knowledge

B- (80-82) Incorrect language use, did not study new material and is relying on previous knowledge

C (75-79) Poor quality overall

It would benefit you greatly if you came into office hours to review your quiz mistakes.

Honor system:

I believe strongly in the capacity of each student to respect our honor system and accordingly for students to do their own work. DO collaborate with your classmates in study or conversation groups. DO give credit to your fellow students when that is the right thing to do. DO complete the on line tutorial on Integrity and the Honor System: <http://www.library.georgetown.edu/resource/tutorials.htm>

HAVE A GREAT AND ENJOYABLE SEMESTER